

Combined Federal Campaign drive underway



From left to right: Col. Ken Helfrich, 1st Lt. Gunnar Spafford and Sgt. Maj. Donald Jones fill out Combined Federal Campaign pledges at Headquarters and Service Battalion headquarters, Oct. 10, to kick off the battalion's annual CFC drive. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*

BY CPL. KEVIN M. KNALLAY
Chevron staff

Combined Federal Campaign representatives on the depot are continuing the annual CFC drive during October. Pledges can be made by federal civilian and military donors during the campaign season which began Sept. 1.

Depot unit representatives from the CFC want to increase participation by educating service members about the numerous organizations that are part of the campaign and to strive for 100 percent contact, said Maj Michael Gervasoni, deputy inspector general and depot CFC coordinator.

Last year the depot's goal was to reach \$316,000, said Gervasoni. This year, the goal is to surpass that number, he said.

The CFC is the world's largest annual workplace charity campaign. About four million federal employees and service members raise millions of dollars for national and international

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New solar panels to cut \$48,000 in energy costs

BY SGT. JAMES P. GREEN
Chevron staff

Executive Order 13423, signed in 2007, strengthened the Energy Policy Act of 2005, stating that federal agencies must replace our energy use with renewable energy by three percent annually through 2015, totaling 30 percent from the previous 2005 usage.

The order also states that 50 percent of the renewable energy must come from new renewable energy sources.

In early 2007, after engineering technicians at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego attended energy training courses, the commanding general, Brig. Gen. Angie Salinas, and the chief of staff, Col. Carl Huenefeld, gave the "thumbs up" to begin planning the installation of solar panels atop six warehouses. Installation began last month.

Solar panels are used to

gather solar energy from the sun. They help maintain a clean and sustainable environment, and are a type of renewable energy.

With the help of contractors through San Diego Gas and Electric, Independent Energy Solutions, have already completed the installation on two of the six buildings.

The total cost of the three-part energy conservation project, including lighting retrofit, solar panels and a back pressure steam turbine, is approximately \$3.5 million. The panels alone are estimated at \$1,639,000.

Funding for this project was financed through SDG&E and will be paid back with the money saved in electricity use over the next 10 years. On top of the savings, the depot will receive a \$740,000 rebate which can be used to pay back SDG&E, or future energy-saving projects, according to Rick Hatcher, engineering technician, Facilities

Maintenance Division.

According to Hatcher, the new system is estimated to produce 405,000 kilowatts of energy per year which is equivalent to about \$48,600 in savings.

Hatcher said the solar panel project is expected to be completed by Dec. 22. With money saved and a cleaner environment, the depot can continue effectively training and

producing Marines with one less obstacle in their path.

For more energy saving ideas and steps to a cleaner environment, contact Facilities Maintenance at (619)-524-4372.



Independent Energy Solutions workers install solar panels on the roof of one of six depot warehouses scheduled to have the conversion done by late December. Once completed, the installation is expected to save more than \$48,000 each year. *Photo courtesy of depot Facilities Maintenance*



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Women over 40 – Don’t wait until it’s too late

BY JANICE M. HAGAR
MCRD San Diego Public Affairs

When it comes to taking care of people, I’m last on my list. When I have to take care of required things for my health, I usually tell myself to remember to make an appointment and then fail to follow through.

When I reached my 40s, one of the most important things I needed to do was to start getting annual mammograms. My mom bugged me about it all the time. I knew she was right, and I’d tell her “I’ll call and make an appointment,” and then promptly forget to do so.

I don’t want to dime out my age, but I was very overdue for that first mammogram when I found a lump in one of my breasts last spring. I just got home and was in the process of changing out of my work clothes when my hand brushed my side, and I felt the ominous lump. My first thought was “What was that?” Then I reached up to check further and sure enough, I felt a very defined lump. Fear struck me like a baseball bat. My heart started pounding and my mind started racing. I waited a couple of minutes and then checked the spot again, hoping it had magically disappeared. In the midst of this obsessive-compulsive activity, I kept thinking “This can’t be happening, and “How could you go so long without getting a mammogram?”

I was near tears, and I wanted to talk to my mom so badly. But I didn’t have the heart to call her and bring her into this nightmare I created by not follow-

ing her advice. If the lump was cancerous, then I would have potentially let something become deadly that could have been detected and dealt with at a much earlier stage. I did not make the call and spent the night tossing and turning. Morning couldn’t arrive soon enough for me so that I could start making phone calls and setting up doctors’ appointments.

How could I have been so foolish with my health? I should have gotten those mammograms. I thought for sure I was going to be punished with a cancer diagnosis.

Fortunately, the lump was not cancer – it was a cyst. It took a mammogram and an ultrasound to get that ruling. I had been spared. As the doctors discussed the results, they reminded me that I need to get a mammogram every year from now on. I promised them (and myself) that I would never skip out on making that appointment.

Breast cancer is the most common cancer in women in the United States, according to the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month Website. October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, but my awareness month kicked in early this year. According to the National Cancer Institute, more than 182,000 new cases of breast cancer in women are expected by the end of 2008. It was estimated that more than 40,000 women would die from the disease in 2008.

I wonder how many of those women waited too long to get checked? I think one of the subconscious reasons I avoided a mammogram was that I was afraid

of being diagnosed with cancer. Talk about living in denial. But there are a lot of barriers that keep women from getting annual mammograms. There’s fear of the diagnosis, fear of the procedure itself, or incorrect presumptions about lack of risk factors. The bottom line is women 40 and over should have a mammogram once a year. Additionally, it’s also important to do a monthly self-exam. Women may discover a problem area before it’s time for their annual exams.

I was very lucky the lump I felt was a cyst. Soon after my last appointment, I called my mom to confess my mistake and promised her I’d never skip a health appointment again.

As part of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Marine Corps Community Services is hosting a special awareness event. Make a Difference Day will be held Saturday from 8 to 11 a.m. at the depot Exchange mall area. The event features a one-mile walk, as well as expo featuring information booths, giveaways, food and music. For more details, call Michelle Nail at (619) 524-8913.

If you’re a woman over 40 who hasn’t had a mammogram, don’t wait. Take time this month to make an appointment and educate yourself about breast cancer and other women’s health issues. You can find out more information about breast cancer at the American Cancer Society Website at www.cancer.org or at the National Cancer Institute at www.cancer.gov. For more information on breast cancer awareness, visit www.nbcam.org.

BRIEFS

Make a Difference Day Walk and Expo

MCRD San Diego will host the third annual Make a Difference Day Walk tomorrow at 9 a.m. at the MCRD Exchange Mall. The event demonstrates social responsibility by raising awareness of breast cancer prevention and domestic violence prevention. The event is open to active duty, retirees, DoD employees and their guests. Registration is at 7:30 a.m. on the day of the event, or sign up on-line at www.mcrdsd.com. Call Kelley Sitar at (619) 524-5655 for information.

MMOA monitor team

A Manpower Management Officer Assignments monitor team will visit the depot Oct. 20. The team will present a briefing for officers from 8 to 10 a.m., in Building 7W. Officers assigned to MCRD are required to attend, and those assigned to ETWC-GPAC, Coronado, are encouraged to attend. The briefing will cover command screening, professional military education opportunities and career development. Officers who want a personal interview with counselors and/or monitors should submit their names to their respective unit adjutants. Interviews are restricted to fiscal year 09 movers, followed by FY10, FY11 and FY12. Call (619) 524-8733 for information and to schedule an interview appointment.

19th Annual Military Women’s Luncheon

The annual Military Women’s Luncheon will be held at the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Officer’s Club Nov. 1. Brig. Gen. Angie Salinas, commanding general, MCRD San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region, will be the guest speaker. The event begins with a social hour at 11 a.m., followed by the luncheon at noon and the program at 1 p.m. Reservations are required and must be made by Oct. 20. Tickets are \$25 per person. Make checks payable to: Military Women’s Luncheon, and mail to Toni Lopez, 4950 Treasure Dr., La Mesa, CA 91941. Walk-ins will not be accepted. Call (619) 462-6081 for information.

Wounded Marine career orientation day

The Wounded Marine Careers Foundation is looking for transitioning and discharged disabled veterans of all services to participate in a training program that qualifies graduates to work in the entertainment industry.

The foundation will hold an orientation day Oct. 20 at their facility in San Diego. Interested service members should contact Jeffrey Galloway, admissions officer, for more information at (858) 974-8134, or by email at Jeffrey@woundedmarinecareers.org. More information on the Wounded Marine Careers Foundation may be found at: www.woundedmarinecareers.org.

SEND BRIEFS TO:

MCRDSD-PAO.fct@usmc.mil. The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.

TRICARE tips for breast cancer prevention

BY TYLER PATTERSON
TriWest Healthcare Alliance

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. The American Cancer Society estimates that more than 180,000 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed in 2008, making breast cancer the second most common form of cancer in American women.

Breast Cancer Awareness Month is dedicated to one of the most powerful tools in your anti-cancer arsenal: knowledge. Proper prevention and detection are easily handled by simply making a few smart lifestyle choices and scheduling regular screenings.

What Causes Breast Cancer?

While no one knows exactly what causes breast cancer to develop in some people and not in others, science has identified many high risk factors which increase an individual’s chances of developing it. You can avoid many of these risk factors simply by making

some healthy choices.

- Exercise. In addition to its many other benefits, studies suggest people who exercise have a decreased chance of developing any cancer, not just breast cancer.
- Quit Smoking. Not only will your heart, lungs, and mouth thank you, but after a few years, your added risk of developing any cancer will drop substantially.
- Maintain A Healthy Body Weight. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lists being overweight as a cancer risk factor. Even if exercise “isn’t for you,” you can still keep trim without breaking a sweat. Walk for ten minutes a night and see a nutritionist to get off to a great start.
- Limit Your Alcohol Consumption. Having more than one drink a day is considered a high risk factor.

TRICARE Has You Covered

TRICARE provides a robust benefit to help you screen for and identify this

potentially life-threatening but curable problem, including physical examinations for women 40 and older. Annual mammograms for women 39 and older, or 35 and older for those at high risk of developing breast cancer are also covered.

An Ounce of Detection...

Even if you don’t engage in high-or moderate-risk behavior, it is still possible to develop breast cancer, which is why scheduling regular examinations is so important. The best approach to early detection incorporates both monthly self-examinations and annual mammograms.

For more information about your TRICARE entitlement, visit TriWest’s Web site, www.triwest.com. You may also contact TriWest directly at 1-888-TRIWEST (874-9378). To learn more about your self-examination options and breast cancer itself, visit www.cancer.gov and www.breastcancer.org.

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charitable organizations.

It brings more than 1,700 charities into the campaign and allows federal employees to select which charity to make contributions through salary allotments or lump sums, according to the CFC Web site www.opm.gov/cfc/. The CFC gathers a lengthy list of organizations for many causes from cancer research to animal rights. All of the organizations go through an extensive review of their financial

and governance practices prior to acceptance to ensure they make the best of their donations. Last year, the CFC raised more than \$273 million DoD wide.

While many people are being affected by the uncertain economic situation, CFC representatives encourage federal employees to give what they can during the drive.

“People wonder if they can afford to give, and yes it is a tough time for everybody, but it’s a tougher time for those that benefit from the CFC,”

Gervasoni said.

“Almost everyone usually knows someone that has been affected by cancer, heart disease or natural disasters and when people realize organizations that help those causes are in the CFC, they are happy to give because they can relate and know it’s for a good cause,” Gervasoni said.

Service members and federal employees interested in donating can contact assigned representatives in their unit. Also, for more information, visit www.cfc-sandiego.org.

8th Marine Corps District Team ducks, dives, dodges in annual tourney

BY SGT. HEIDI E. LOREDO-AGOSTINI
RS San Antonio

Marines from Recruiting Station San Antonio didn't dodge the opportunity to compete in San Antonio's third annual Duck 'N Dodge dodgeball tournament sponsored by 99.5 Kiss FM Rocks and the San Antonio Sports Foundation Sept. 27.

The recruiters had a chance to win a large trophy and meet members of the community.

School yard dodgeball was never like this. The tournament allowed participants to relive the glory days on the playground. Team Marine was composed of the first seven recruiters from 8th Marine Corps District who made their recruiting mission early, and one Marine from district

headquarters.

In 2006, 60 teams participated in the San Antonio Sports Foundation's first dodgeball tournament, held to gauge the interest of local adults in playing the game taught across the country in physical education classes and popularized by the 2004 movie "Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story." San Antonio plugged in a fitness aspect to the tournament and welcomed it back. This time it brought a message to the residents of the city: "Let's be a Fit Antonio...not a Fat Antonio."

"It's a great sport," said Mary Japhet, associate executive director of the sports foundation's youth programs. "It's highly accessible, and it's not an overly expensive sport to stage. Games last no longer than five minutes — once

you're hit, you're out, and they fall fast. A lot of these players take it very seriously."

The tournament play began with 10 team pools with each team playing one game against all the teams in the pool to determine rank. All teams advanced to bracket play based on the pool rankings, then onto single elimination.

"I think I did fairly well despite what everybody in my office was saying before the tournament," said Staff Sgt. Johann Lehnhoff-Alvarez, a recruiter from Recruiting Substation Corpus Christi. "We did fairly well as a team until we got to the second portion of the tournament.

"We made it a little further than we expected and that made us happy," added Lehnhoff-Alvarez.

Team Marines advanced to the elimination bracket after a loss to KENS 5 News Team and Hitmen, but were finally eliminated after an embarrassing loss to Average Moes.

"When we first started, we underestimated (KENS 5 News Team)," said Gunnery Sgt. Reynaldo Ruiz, supply chief, RS San Antonio. "We didn't think they had the guts to compete with physically fit guys like us."

"It was very good publicity," said Staff Sgt. Lloyd Beckford a recruiter from RSS Ingram. "It put us out there on the front page with everybody else. We all had a lot of fun."

A recruiting booth was

set up adjacent to the radio station, flanked by the recruiting station's branded Hummer H3. Although Team Marines came in sixth place, all players agreed it was good exposure and a good reward for the team.

"It was a pretty good team, and we were able to meet the community and have fun while doing it," said Lehnhoff-Alvarez. "We just need to catch more balls and duck more often next time."



Staff Sgt. Lloyd Beckford, a recruiter assigned to Recruiting Substation Ingram, Recruiting Station San Antonio, barely dodges a ball launched by the opposing team during San Antonio's city-wide dodgeball tournament on Sept. 27. Sgt. Heidi E. Lored-Agostini/RS San Antonio



Staff Sgt. Matthew Biering, a recruiter assigned to Recruiting Substation Ingram, Recruiting Station San Antonio, dodges a ball thrown by his opponent during San Antonio's third annual Duck 'N Dodge Tournament. Sgt. Heidi E. Lored-Agostini/RS San Antonio



Sgt. Timoteo Barrientez, a recruiter assigned to Recruiting Substation Weslaco, Recruiting Station San Antonio, hurls a ball toward his opponent during the Duck 'n Dodge dodgeball tournament. The event allowed recruiters a fun opportunity to meet the community. Sgt. Heidi E. Lored-Agostini/RS San Antonio

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Recruits from Platoon 2125, Company F, negotiate an obstacle during the Leadership Reaction Course. The recruits cannot touch the ground or areas marked in red when completing their assigned tasks. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*



Recruits from Platoon 2125 steady themselves on a chain bridge as they make their way from one side to the other. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*



Company F recruits work together to transport ammunition cans through an obstacle designed to develop recruit leadership skills and teamwork. It is just one of many challenges they face during the Crucible.

Company F recruits

BY CPL. KEVIN M. KNALLAY
Chevron staff

Throughout their time at boot camp, the recruits of Company F rarely had a chance to think for themselves. They were told how and when to do many tasks. However, the Crucible, a 54-hour field training exercise held at Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Oct. 8, is designed to physically and mentally test recruits before becoming Marines. They are given trial scenarios to think through and develop leadership skills.

One portion of the Crucible is called the Leadership Reaction Course, also known as the 12-Stall because of the 12 areas of the course. All of the obstacles revolve around the same mission objective – get recruits or additional gear through the obstacle without touching certain areas of the obstacle. Those areas of the obstacle are painted red to designate danger areas. If additional gear is dropped and touches a red area or



A recruit holds a wooden plank steady while another recruit walks across it to maintain security until they can move across the obstacle during the Leadership Reaction Course.



Recruits pull a rope through a tunnel obstacle during the Leadership Reaction Course at Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. Oct. 8. The course has 12 training stack areas. This is one of many training events during the 54-hour-long Crucible. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*

Recruits overcome obstacles, become leaders

falls into the gravel pit below the obstacles, that gear is lost and the recruits must continue on without it.

Also, if recruits touch red areas or the gravel, they are eliminated from the obstacle and can no longer help the squad accomplish their mission.

The recruits use additional gear such as ammunition cans, barrels or water jugs, ropes, wooden planks and beams.

Before tackling each mission, groups of 10 recruits pick a squad leader. The squad leader reads aloud the scenario represented by that particular station. He is in charge and directs the others' actions, listens to other recruits' ideas and decides how to complete the task.

"The course builds teamwork and communication skills," said Cpl. Francisco Cortez, a field instructor with WFTBn. "Each station has a new squad leader, so it gives multiple people a chance to be a leader. It also gives them a sense of accomplishment when they complete their task."

For the majority of the recruits, it was their first time holding a leadership position.

"There is a little pressure from being the leader," said Recruit Steven Dessenberger, Platoon 2125. "It feels really good, though, to be in a leadership position during these exercises."

The degree of difficulty for the obstacles varies. Some are impassable and some are relatively simple. Also, not all the gear given is needed for the task.

"Sometimes they make it more complicated than it is," Cortez said. "Although, (the course) gets them started on thinking on their own about how to accomplish things at their level."

After the obstacles, the recruits further build their teamwork and small unit leadership while completing the rest of the Crucible before earning their eagle, globe and anchor.

"The Crucible really brings us together," Dessenberger said. "Friendships are formed during boot camp and you become brothers during the Crucible."



Recruits haul a barrel simulating extra supplies up an obstacle. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*



Recruits cross the obstacle as the recruits in the squad provide support. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*



Recruits use teamwork to successfully navigate across an obstacle on the Leadership Reaction Course at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. *Cpl. Kevin M. Knallay/Chevron*

Previous medical experience helps with training

BY LANCE CPL. JOSE NAVA
Chevron Staff

A late night call came in for a motor-vehicle accident, said Pfc. James C. Hawkins, Platoon 2121, Company F, thinking back to when he

worked as a emergency medical technician.

“We were the first responders to the scene of the incident,” said Hawkins. “The accident was not ghastly; it was the people involved that made it hard to forget.”

The scene of the accident was

a two-car collision where one of the motorists fell asleep at the wheel and collided with an older couple. The man who fell asleep died in route to the hospital, and so did the elderly woman.

“That specific call was hard to deal with because I had to tend to the elderly gentleman,”

said Hawkins. “He kept asking about his wife while I treated him, but because of the (Health Information Privacy Act), I was not allowed to tell him that she was dead.”

An EMT is a first-responder that provides pre-hospital medical treatment that is often life saving. These technicians are trained to respond to a variety of emergency situations such as medical emergencies, childbirth, hazardous material exposure and abuse.

Now in his final week of boot camp at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Hawkins, 21, said that his experience as an EMT has helped him to deal with the stress of recruit training.

Hawkins joined the Marine Corps in order to pay for the rest of his education and to gain life experience before trying to become a firefighter.

“When working as an EMT, a person cannot let his emotions get involved,” said Hawkins. “The job gets harder if emotions get involved, and it ends up coming home with you.”

Hawkins attended Red Rocks Community College, Lakewood, Colo., and he wanted to be a firefighter so he majored in fire science. He also got his EMT certification at Red Rock, and began work as an EMT at age 18.

Hawkins worked as an EMT in Aurora Fire Department, Aurora, Colo., where he provided hospital-to-hospital transportation and aid to the outskirts of Denver for 11 months.

Arriving on the depot July 21, Hawkins mentioned that the hardest part of recruit training

for him was the adjustments that he had to make at the beginning.

“To get through the first couple of days, the platoon had to work together,” said Hawkins. “We all helped each other get tasks done.”

Hawkins said having to self motivate himself was not too difficult, he just had to remember why he joined and what he wanted to do to help him through recruit training.

“Throughout training Hawkins was a good recruit,” said Sgt. Johnny A. Thompson, drill instructor, Company F. “He motivated other recruits when they needed help with tasks and kept himself motivated as well.”

He plans on staying in the Marine Corps for four years and pursue his education to become a firefighter and attain a firefighting career.

Although the Marine Corps has a firefighting military occupational specialty in the aviation field, Hawkins was not able to obtain Crash Fire Rescue because there were no programs available for the MOS.

Hawkins did not let the closure of the MOS, CFR, stop him from continuing on the road to becoming a Marine.

The MOS that Hawkins chose is Combat Engineer. He will help build, maintain and repair buildings and structures in the Corps.

After graduating from recruit training, Hawkins will have 10 days leave and then attend the School of Infantry, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., for further training.



Pfc. James C. Hawkins, Platoon 2121, Company F, cleans his M16A2 service rifle at MCRD San Diego, Calif., Oct. 12. Maintenance of the service rifle is taught at the beginning of recruit training to help recruits pay attention to detail, which is an important part of being a Marine. Lance Cpl. Jose Nava/Chevron Staff



Pfc. James C. Hawkins uses a pipe-cleaning rod to apply lubrication to the bolt-carrier group of his rifle. Lance Cpl. Jose Nava/Chevron Staff

Mayor Jerry Sanders

PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

Jerry Sanders is the 34th mayor of San Diego. Since being elected to office, Sanders has been implementing a series of reforms to make the city more efficient and more accountable. He is dedicated to community involvement, open government and returning the city to a sound financial footing with the capability of meeting all municipal responsibilities.

Over the course of his 30-year career, Sanders has proven to be skillful at transforming organizations so that they become more effective and efficient. Sanders served as San Diego's chief of police

from 1993 until 1999, capping a 26-year career with the police department. He streamlined the department and helped make San Diego's neighborhood oriented policing a national model, reducing crime by 49 percent.

After leaving the police department, Sanders became the chief executive officer of the San Diego United Way. He slashed bureaucracy, restored the organization's effectiveness and increased fund raising by almost 20 percent. In 2002, Sanders was appointed to the American Red Cross board. He made finances transparent, and oversaw major staff changes.

Now, as mayor, Sanders is applying his experience and skills to transform city government. He has successfully pushed

to finish and release the city's long overdue financial reports helping San Diego move closer to returning to the critical public finance marketplace. He has also put in place a broad-ranging business process re-engineering effort for city functions.

Sanders has developed and implemented a five-year financial plan and the city council has adopted the balanced budgets he has presented every year since taking office. He has permanently cut more than 700 full-time positions from the city's workforce since taking office, and he has initiated the voter-approved managed competition process that will help to improve city services while saving costs in the future.





Platoon 2125 COM-PANY HONOR MAN
Lance Cpl. W. H. Burnett
Houston
Recruited by
Sgt. B. E. Estrada

Platoon 2122 SERIES HONOR MAN
Pfc. M. C. Anderson
South DuPage, Ill.
Recruited by
Sgt. J. Ramsey

Platoon 2121 PLATOON HONOR MAN
Pfc. S. K. Hall
Lansing, Mich.
Recruited by
Sgt. M. Meier

Platoon 2123 PLATOON HONOR MAN
Pfc. P. M. Armstrong
Eugene, Ore.
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. H. Choe

Platoon 2126 PLATOON HONOR MAN
Pfc. B. D. Ferguson
South DuPage, Ill.
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. M. J. Tutaj

Platoon 2127 PLATOON HONOR MAN
Pfc. O. T. Morales
Sacramento, Calif.
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. J. Stewart

Platoon 2128 PLATOON HONOR MAN
Pfc. L. R. Ramirez
St. Joseph, Mo.
Recruited by
Staff Sgt. J. Martin

Platoon 2122 HIGH SHOOTER (330)
Pfc. C. C. Diedrich
Oakland, Calif.
Marksmanship Instructor
Sgt. R. C. Dominguez

Platoon 2123 HIGH PFT (300)
Pvt. A. Corona
San Antonio
Recruited by
Sgt. D. Juarez

FOX COMPANY

2ND RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

Commanding Officer
Lt. Col. G. G. Malkasian
Chaplain
Lt. W. N. Tomasek
Sergeant Major
Sgt. Maj. M. J. O'Loughlin
Battalion Drill Master
Staff Sgt. C. A. Mejia

COMPANY F

Commanding Officer
Capt. B. O. Brooks
Company First Sergeant
1st Sgt. L. Watson

SERIES 2121

Series Commander
1st Lt. Z. B. Walter
Chief Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. J. A. Dow

PLATOON 2121

Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. A. L. Cardoza
Drill Instructors
Sgt. C. Johnson
Sgt. J. G. Thompson Jr.

Pvt. M. L. Aitchison
Pfc. J. S. Allies
Pvt. K. D. Avina-Hernandez
*Pfc. J. M. Barnhart
Pvt. R. J. Berthelette
Pvt. K. R. Blatzer
Pfc. R. C. Bossard
Pfc. K. J. Brizzi
Pvt. D. A. Buhrlé
Pvt. K. A. Campbell
Pvt. B. L. Cardenas
Pvt. N. J. Carson
Pvt. K. R. Chavez
Pvt. G. T. Clayton
Pfc. T. A. Corwin
Pfc. B. S. Currans
Pfc. H. S. Delacruz
*Pfc. J. R. Dennis
Pfc. Z. S. Deyonker
Pvt. T. E. Dixon
Pvt. M. A. Dodoer
Pvt. P. M. Duggan
*Pfc. M. A. Ecker
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Pfc. E. A. Hernandez
Pvt. T. M. Holton
Pvt. M. B. Horn
Pfc. D. S. Howbert
Pfc. B. N. Hunt
Pfc. K. M. Ihde
Pvt. R. J. Ishman
Pvt. S. P. Kelley
Pvt. D. M. Kinkelaar
Pvt. J. E. Kirk Jr.
Pvt. A. G. Krahn
Pvt. D. W. Labout Jr.

Pvt. S. M. Leake
Pvt. J. S. Lucius
Pvt. J. P. Madrid
Pvt. J. D. Mais
*Pfc. G. C. Maranan
Pvt. I. D. Martin
Pvt. D. S. McBee-Wiper
*Pfc. G. Mendoza
Pfc. M. A. Mendoza
*Pfc. D. A. Menger
Pvt. A. R. Merrell
Pvt. B. E. Merriman
Pfc. A. P. Monaghan
Pfc. J. P. Mortenson
Pvt. M. R. Nail
Pfc. D. K. Norcross
Pvt. T. K. Ohlendorf
Pfc. R. J. O'Rourke
Pfc. A. B. Ortega
Pfc. J. W. Panzarella
Pfc. N. J. Perkins
Pvt. J. T. Pulido
Pfc. C. G. Reeves
Pfc. M. A. Scambia
Pvt. K. M. Suri
Pvt. M. A. Talve
Pfc. J. H. Trevino

PLATOON 2122

Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. D. R. Conn
Drill Instructors
Sgt. A. A. Cabrera
Sgt. D. A. Easton

Pvt. A. R. Adolph
Pfc. M. C. Anderson
Pvt. A. O. Arriaga
Pfc. A. R. Barragan
Pvt. C. J. Bauer
*Pfc. J. L. Berg
Pvt. C. W. Bickham III
Pvt. K. J. Bierwagen
Pvt. J. D. Biffle
*Pfc. B. J. Bleasdale
Pfc. W. R. Blinco
*Pfc. T. J. Bohacik
Pfc. D. M. Bond
Pvt. A. B. Bowers
Pvt. T. E. Briley
Pfc. R. P. Buckingham
Pvt. R. T. Buckley
Pvt. D. J. Bunn
Pfc. K. M. Burrell
Pvt. C. L. Carraghan
Pfc. E. H. Carreon
Pvt. J. E. Castro
Pvt. J. S. Cik
Pfc. K. J. Compton
Pfc. S. R. Faris
Pvt. M. D. Corathers
Pvt. N. J. Corollo
Pvt. C. Coronel
Pvt. J. C. Dambacher
Pvt. J. P. Danford
Pvt. S. T. Daniels
Pvt. M. Delgadillo Jr.
Pvt. S. D. Delka
Pfc. C. C. Diedrich
Pvt. J. Q. Dinh
Pvt. J. E. Duncan
Pvt. M. D. Dunlop
Pvt. R. W. Fleshman
Pvt. T. K. Fort
Pvt. C. R. Frazier
Pvt. A. Gonzalez
Pfc. K. N. Grisham
Pfc. A. J. Grupy
Pvt. A. Gutierrez Jr.
Pvt. J. D. Gutierrez Jr.
Pvt. L. T. Hagen
Pvt. C. J. Hall
Pvt. S. R. Henke
Pvt. J. K. Her
*Pfc. J. J. Hernandez
Pvt. N. R. Hill
Pfc. T. J. Hill
Pvt. J. M. Hoffarth

Pvt. M. J. Holden
Pvt. C. D. Hunter
Pfc. J. C. Ipema
Pvt. R. F. Irvin
Pvt. M. V. Ivaniuk
Pvt. N. D. Jeffrey
Pvt. T. P. Jones
Pvt. J. M. Kurtansky
Pvt. J. J. Lara
Pfc. C. E. Lawsom
Pfc. D. J. Leal
Pvt. B. D. Livingston
Pfc. C. M. Livingston
Pvt. J. C. Lopez
Pfc. A. R. Martel
Pfc. D. F. Maxwell
Pfc. R. M. McBee
Pfc. A. M. McGarrity
*Pfc. R. C. McWilliams
Pfc. B. C. Medders
Pfc. C. R. Meeuwesen
Pfc. R. J. Mena
Pfc. P. S. Mitrovich
Pvt. J. L. Moore
Pvt. B. W. Olsen
Pvt. H. R. Parson
Pvt. L. A. Perez
Pvt. M. F. Ramos
Pfc. T. S. Rose
Pvt. J. C. Scott-Willardson
Pfc. C. J. Stewart
Pvt. T. A. Thayer
Pfc. N. N. Vrettos

PLATOON 2123

Senior Drill Instructor
Sgt. A. L. Brown
Drill Instructors
Sgt. H. A. Gomez
Sgt. J. S. Williams

Pfc. J. A. Alaquinez
Pvt. M. A. Alfred
Pfc. M. W. Allen
Pfc. M. D. Allgeyer
Pfc. A. E. Almendares
Pfc. A. A. Alvizo
Pfc. J. Angiano
Pfc. P. M. Armstrong
Pfc. W. D. E. Bahena
Pvt. J. M. Bala
Pvt. C. C. Barron
Pvt. S. M. Benjamin
*Pfc. M. A. Bentley
*Pfc. G. R. Blas
Pfc. J. L. Brown
Pvt. N. E. Bucy
Pfc. T. A. Burgess
Pvt. P. M. Burket
Pvt. J. L. Coning
Pvt. M. D. Corathers
Pvt. N. J. Corollo
Pvt. C. Coronel
Pvt. J. C. Dambacher
Pvt. J. P. Danford
Pvt. S. T. Daniels
Pvt. M. Delgadillo Jr.
Pvt. S. D. Delka
Pfc. C. C. Diedrich
Pvt. J. Q. Dinh
Pvt. J. E. Duncan
Pvt. M. D. Dunlop
Pvt. R. W. Fleshman
Pvt. T. K. Fort
Pvt. C. R. Frazier
Pvt. A. Gonzalez
Pfc. K. N. Grisham
Pfc. A. J. Grupy
Pvt. A. Gutierrez Jr.
Pvt. J. D. Gutierrez Jr.
Pvt. L. T. Hagen
Pvt. C. J. Hall
Pvt. S. R. Henke
Pvt. J. K. Her
*Pfc. J. J. Hernandez
Pvt. N. R. Hill
Pfc. T. J. Hill
Pvt. J. M. Hoffarth

Pvt. K. A. Jernberg
Pvt. T. A. Johnson
Pfc. J. Kellum
*Pfc. W. C. Kellum
Pfc. K. J. Kim
Pvt. T. S. Koehler
Pvt. A. T. Larose
Pfc. P. A. Lawson
Pvt. J. A. Learn
Pvt. K. E. Loper
Pvt. T. S. Martin
Pvt. G. A. Martinez
Pfc. M. A. Mata
Pfc. X. Mendoza
Pvt. J. A. Metcalf
Pvt. C. H. Montgomery
Pfc. R. M. Muller
Pfc. A. J. Nelson
*Pfc. D. Q. Nelson
Pfc. S. E. Obregon
Pvt. J. R. Ortega Jr.
Pvt. A. M. Ostrander
Pvt. D. R. Padek
Pfc. J. M. Parsons
Pvt. A. S. Powell
Pvt. F. Quezada-Lemus
Pvt. Z. J. Rains
Pvt. C. F. Readshaw
Pfc. K. J. Reyes
Pvt. A. Rodriguez
Pvt. F. J. Rodriguez
Pvt. E. R. Shields
Pvt. P. A. Teichelman
Pvt. T. N. Thang
Pfc. B. M. Yates
Pfc. R. R. Yates
Pfc. N. L. Zoren

SERIES 2125

Series Commander
Capt. E. B. Montgomery
Chief Drill Instructor
Gunnery Sgt. E. L. Reid

PLATOON 2125

Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. E. Gonzalez Jr.
Drill Instructors
Sgt. D. Robinson
Sgt. E. White Jr.

Pvt. E. Andalón
Pvt. J. J. Barr
Pvt. S. D. Barraclough
Pvt. W. Barrera
*Pfc. Z. J. Beasley
Pvt. R. J. Bedwell
Pvt. M. T. Berggren
Pvt. R. Bhandhoo
Pvt. J. L. Byndom Jr.
Pvt. J. A. Brittain
Pvt. J. W. Brock
*Lance Cpl. W. H. Burnett
Pvt. B. W. Carr
Pfc. A. Carrillo III
Pvt. R. M. Carson
Pfc. R. J. Castillo
Pfc. G. Cranson
Pfc. M. K. Crowder
Pvt. C. B. Dalusong
Pfc. S. J. Dessenberger
Pvt. B. E. Emory
Pvt. M. Esparza
Pfc. H. Espiritu Jr.
Pfc. P. L. Fancher
Pvt. M. J. Fields
Pfc. R. M. Folker
Pvt. A. M. Folger
Pvt. A. J. Garcia
Pvt. J. L. Garcia
Pfc. O. S. Garcia
Pfc. A. A. Garza
Pvt. J. F. Gauger
Pfc. M. C. Gibson
Pvt. G. Gomez
Pvt. R. Gomez Jr.
Pvt. D. O. Gonzales
Pfc. A. A. Gonzalez
Pvt. C. Y. Gonzalez

Pvt. L. A. Gonzalez
Pvt. J. A. Gutierrez
Pvt. J. A. Hall
Pvt. D. D. Harris
Pvt. K. J. Hart
Pvt. B. D. Henderson
*Pfc. R. E. Hernandez
Pvt. O. Huerta-Gastelu
*Pfc. C. M. Hunter
Pvt. J. R. Hutcheson-Fling
Pvt. P. Jacques-Parada
Pfc. R. T. Jaynes
*Pfc. K. S. Jewell
Pfc. A. P. Jones
Pfc. S. J. Jubb
Pvt. M. A. Kerns
Pfc. S. R. Kroeber
Pfc. T. A. Kuklis
Pvt. T. K. Lee
Pfc. E. R. Leon
Pvt. R. Limones Jr.
Pfc. A. S. Lowe
Pvt. S. R. Mackie
Pvt. J. C. Magallon
*Pfc. I. A. Maher
Pvt. M. I. Martinez
Pvt. C. G. Marquez
Pvt. J. I. McGarity
Pfc. A. B. McKernan
Pfc. J. A. Mena Jr.
Pvt. J. E. Moody
Pvt. A. L. Moore
Pvt. E. A. Mora
Pvt. I. Muraira
Pfc. S. L. Myers II
Pvt. E. D. Nelson
Pvt. C. K. Nicholson
Pvt. J. J. Orendain
Pvt. J. A. Osuna
Pvt. D. T. Palmer
Pfc. J. Pankratz
Pfc. C. J. Patterson
Pfc. C. A. Schlotzhauser
Pfc. M. C. Teniente
Pvt. R. Vasquez
Pvt. B. A. Wiemann

PLATOON 2126

Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. W. W. Davis
Drill Instructors
Sgt. D. L. Brewer
Sgt. T. C. Ferguson

Pfc. A. T. Aper
Pvt. D. A. Arellano
Pvt. D. A. Bailey
Pvt. J. E. Barnes
Pfc. C. M. Beckman
Pvt. J. T. Beene
Pfc. J. B. Benavides
Pfc. J. D. Benavides
*Pfc. C. R. Bird
Pvt. J. S. Bisailon
Pvt. R. H. Borgman
Pvt. W. R. Brewer
Pfc. C. A. Buendicho
Pvt. K. C. Cadegiani
Pvt. N. K. Cagle
Pfc. C. L. Camden
Pvt. J. S. Cardenas
Pvt. J. A. Carlson
Pvt. C. Carrender
Pvt. R. E. Casey
Pfc. J. F. Castillo
Pvt. E. J. Colling
Pvt. M. L. Collins
Pvt. C. R. Cruz
Pvt. R. L. Davis
*Pfc. C. J. Del Frate
Pvt. J. M. Deno
Pvt. J. L. Doubek
Pfc. J. R. Dull
Pvt. J. P. Dunivan
Pvt. T. B. Enunu
Pfc. T. M. Erickson
Pvt. K. A. Esparza
Pvt. T. R. Ewing

Pfc. B. D. Ferguson
Pvt. E. L. Flaherty
Pfc. E. Gamez
Pvt. N. S. Goodman
Pvt. A. D. Grell
Pvt. C. A. Grellner
Pvt. J. C. Grimes
Pvt. N. R. Guerrero
Pvt. M. N. Harris
Pfc. G. Hernandez
Pvt. W. P. Holmes
*Pfc. C. M. Holub
Pvt. C. A. Hoover
Pvt. B. W. Jeanty
Pvt. J. M. Karoki
Pfc. J. W. Keisler
Pvt. A. S. Kelley
Pvt. K. M. Kimble
Pvt. J. S. Kline
Pvt. C. W. Koewers
Pfc. P. M. Krider
Pfc. N. J. La Cava
Pvt. R. M. Lambert
Pvt. D. L. Lestage
Pvt. D. M. Lillegard
Pfc. L. A. Lomeli
Pfc. C. A. Long
Pvt. H. X. Lopez
*Pfc. P. C. Magallanes
Pvt. A. A. Manriquez
Pvt. J. O. Mason
Pfc. D. M. Mayfield
*Pfc. A. B. McManus
Pvt. K. Mercado
*Pfc. A. D. Merkle
Pvt. N. M. Mucetti
Pvt. J. T. Nealy
Pvt. X. A. Nix
Pvt. C. M. Orso
Pvt. C. J. Ortiz
Pvt. S. M. Palmer
Pvt. A. G. Polk
Pvt. C. R. Sharp
Pfc. M. P. Stokes
Pvt. T. R. Townsend
Pfc. T. J. Twiehaus
Pfc. S. M. Tyson
Pvt. H. C. Valadez
Pvt. D. S. Valdez
Pvt. J. D. Whitmire
Pvt. K. S. Wilson
Pvt. K. E. Woods
Pfc. W. N. Woods

PLATOON 2127

Senior Drill Instructor
Staff Sgt. A. J. Sanders
Drill Instructors
Staff Sgt. A. C. Livingston
Sgt. A. L. Linares

Pfc. C. Gonzalez
Pvt. M. J. Grooms
Pvt. K.W. Lund
*Pfc. G. C. Morales
Pfc. O. T. Morales
Pfc. C. S. Neves
Pvt. D. E. Nez
Pvt. E. A. Nicholson
Pvt. J. A. Ochoa
Pvt. A. B. Page
Pvt. J. M. Paprocki
Pfc. G. B. Peiffer
Pvt. S. A. Peikert
Pvt. E. Perez
Pvt. A. W. Pettinga
Pvt. M. A. Pinney II
Pvt. M. Purkiss
*Pfc. S. Quijano
Pvt. D. A. Ramirez
Pvt. R. S. Ramirez
Pvt. D. R. Reavis
Pvt. D. J. Rennilson
*Pfc. H. A. Reveles
Pvt. J. Revelo
Pfc. J. J. Reynante
Pvt. M. J. Rodarte
Pvt. A. Rodriguez

Pvt. D. A. Rodriguez
Pfc. J. A. Rodriguez
Pvt. X. V. Rodriguez
Pvt. N. J. Roeller
Pvt. J. B. Rogers
Pfc. B. K. Roina
Pvt. A. N. Rojas
Pvt. C. L. Ross
Pfc. C. L. Ross
Pfc. M. J. Rouillard
Pvt. C. R. Rutherford
Pvt. D. J. Samaha
Pfc. C. L. Sanburn
*Pfc. R. C. Sanders
Pvt. J. G. Scarim
Pfc. J. A. Schmitendorf
Pvt. A. P. Schomberg
Pvt. J. D. Schrader
Pvt. K. D. Schroeder
Pvt. T. L. Schuette
Pvt. S. C. Schultz
Pvt. P. J. Schwartzbauer
Pfc. D. S. Selig
Pvt. K. F. Shafer
Pfc. L. D. Simmons
Pfc. J. L. Simpson
Pfc. C. D. Smith
Pvt. E. A. Smith
Pvt. J. D. Smith
Pvt. S. L. Sollars II
Pvt. C. T. Speker
*Pfc. C. J. Spottedtail
Pvt. N. R. Steel
Pvt. K. F. Stegall
Pvt. T. A. Stewart
Pfc. B. V. Stout
Pvt. J. W. Stout
Pvt. Z. J. Stowie
Pvt. J. M. Stutesman
Pvt. D. L. Ventris
Pfc. M. R. Vetrone
Pvt. S. D. Vezeau
Pvt. M. E. Warren
Pfc. J. M. Wegemer
Pfc. C. J. Welzig
Pvt. A. G. White
Pvt. J. E. Whitting
Pvt. R. M. Willman
Pvt. M. C. Workman
Pvt. S. M. Yeater
Pvt. M. J. Yellowhorse

PLATOON 2128

Senior Drill Instructor
Gunnery Sgt. J. R. Garcia
Drill Instructors
Gunnery Sgt. E. Hernandez
Gunnery Sgt. J. D. Johnson

Pvt. S. C. Cain
Pvt. J. A. Delgado
*Pfc. W. P. Diamond
Pvt. J. R. Eroh
Pvt. C. M. Feasel
Pvt. S. M. Forslund
Pvt. R. S. Klepsteen
Pfc. J. L. Maxwell
Pfc. U. D. Meza-Hernandez Jr.
Pvt. R. A. Miller
Pvt. E. B. Mitchell
Pvt. L. A. Muns
Pvt. C. D. Murry
Pfc. R. D. Nava
Pvt. D. R. Newhouse
Pfc. T. A. Nuss
Pfc. F. J. Papaleo
Pvt. R. Paredes
Pfc. E. G. Patron
Pfc. M. R. Peralta

Pfc. J. A. Perez
Pvt. J. S. Pilkerton
Pfc. K.W. Plowman
Pvt. C. S. Porter
Pfc. C. R. Powers
*Pfc. I. Puentes
Pvt. E. P. Ramirez
*Pfc. L. R. Ramirez
Pvt. M. A. Redmon
Pvt. B. A. Rego
Pfc. J. D. Rehling
Pfc. J. D. Richards
Pvt. A. F. Rivera
Pvt. N. R. Rodriguez
Pvt. C. J. Savinon
PvtA. S. Schell
Pfc. J. L. Sicairos Jr.
Pvt. R. J. Silva
Pvt. B. S. Sines
Pvt. B. P. Sizemore
Pfc. B. P. Skaggs
Pvt. M. C. Skogen
Pvt. N. M. Sleeman
Pfc. C. M. Smith
Pvt. J. R. Sonnier
Pfc. J. V. Soto
Pvt. B. A. Staten
Pvt. J. E. Stephens
Pvt. B. W. Stewart
Pvt. W. A. Stewart
Pvt. D. J. Stueve
Pfc. K. M. Sullivan
Pvt. J. A. Talavera
*Pfc. J. R. Tavano
Pvt. R. A. Tijerina
Pvt. P. G. Tomlin
Pfc. J. A. Treadwell
Pvt. D. A. Trout
Pfc. C. R. Upshaw
Pfc. U. A. Uruena
Pfc. R. M. Usrey
Pvt. J. J. Vaichis
Pvt. C. M. Valente
Pfc. P. A. Vargas
Pvt. S. G. Vasquez
Pfc. A. V. Vega
Pfc. D. Villa
Pfc. J. B. Waldman
Pvt. J. I. Way
*Pfc. K. C. Weaver
Pvt. M. S. Webb
Pvt. L. G. Wilson
Pvt. R. J. Wilson
Pfc. W. M. Wilson
Pvt. E. L. Winn
Pfc. W. T. Wolny
Pvt. A. M. Yanez
Pvt. H. Zamudio-Saucedo.
Pvt. A. R. Zargoza Jr.
Pvt. M. F. Zell

* Denotes meritorious promotion

Part 1 of a 2 part series

Drill Instructor School turns Marines into Marine makers

By Cpl. Carrie C. Ruiz
Chevron Staff

On “Black Friday,” new recruits are introduced to a group of Marines that they will never forget—their drill instructors.

Drill instructors embody everything it is to be a Marine: honor, courage, commitment, unshakable bearing, and meticulous uniforms. After graduating from the 13-week recruit training, many recruits leave with the desire to become just like their mentors, but only a select few actually become drill instructors.

Marine Corps drill instructors have a rich heritage built on tradition and discipline.

Drill Instructor Schools were established at MCRD San Diego and MCRD Parris Island, S.C., during World War II, but because of the need for more drill instructors

to train the rapidly growing number of recruits, the Drill Instructor School’s training schedule lasted a mere two weeks. Once academic instructors were added to increase the staff at the schools, the schedule was increased to 10 weeks.

The Korean War took a toll on the staff at Drill Instructor School, and once again the schedule was decreased to less than four weeks. During this time, outstanding privates first class were allowed to enroll in Drill Instructor School. In 1954 the schedule was increased again to 10 weeks, and the enrollment was limited to only noncommissioned officers.

Marines who wish to apply for drill instructor duty must hold the rank of sergeant through gunnery sergeant. Corporals may also be considered if they are scheduled to be promoted during Drill Instructor School.

In order to be eligible, Marines must have scored 90 or higher on the general and technical portion of the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test, must have no negative service record book entries within two years, no alcohol-related incidents within three years, no court martial’s within five years, no non-judicial punishments within two years, and have not filed for bankruptcy within two years or have divorce or separation proceedings still pending.

First Sgt. Kenneth Agee, first sergeant of MCRD San Diego’s Drill Instructor School, said that the school’s mission is to evaluate and train selected noncommissioned officers, staff noncommissioned officers and commissioned officers for duty as drill instructors and series commanders.

“To become a drill instructor, a Marine must possess patience,

determination and a strong desire to make Marines,” said Agee. “We have no problems finding eligible Marines to fill the classes,” said Agee. “The attrition rate for the school is less than 10 percent. I think that every Marine will eventually want to become a drill instructor.”

Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Bruce said that while he was in Iraq his command received an e-mail asking for Marines who are interested in drill instructor duty, so he put his package in while he was deployed, and received orders to drill instructor’s school within a month.

Marines who are accepted for drill instructor duty must complete the 12-week-long school where they are trained in first aid, CPR, close-order drill, swim qualifica-

tion, physical fitness, Marine Corps knowledge and standard operating procedure.

“The students are taught the spirit and intent of training recruits, which is to produce the maximum number of smartly disciplined, physically fit and basically trained Marines who have embraced the core values of honor, courage and commitment,” said Gunnery Sgt. Francisco Rivera, SOP instructor.

After the 55 days of training, the Marines are awarded a certificate of completion and the coveted campaign cover.

Bruce said that it still hasn’t hit him that he is a drill instructor now, but graduating from the school is a great feeling and he is looking forward to training the future of the Marine Corps.



Drill Instructor School students listen to their brief before beginning their rappelling exercise on the depot’s rappel tower, Aug. 24. *Cpl. Carrie C. Ruiz/Chevron*



Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Bruce, class honorman, left, practices giving orders to another Drill Instructor School student, who is acting as a recruit. *Cpl. Carrie C. Ruiz/Chevron*



Staff Sgt. Nathaniel Bruce, MCRD San Diego Drill Instructor School, motivates a recruit across the rope bridge during a shadowing exercise with Company C recruits, Sept 17. During bird-dogging, students are attached to a training company to shadow drill instructors and apply the skills they have learned while in school. *Cpl. Carrie C. Ruiz/Chevron*